

**HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
DEFENSE SUBCOMMITTEE**

Mahon, George H. (D., Tex.), Chairman
Sheppard, Harry R. (D., Calif.)
Sikes, Robert L. F. (D., Fla.)
Norrell, W. F. (D., Ark.)
Whitten, Jamie L. (D., Miss.)
Andrews, George W. (D., Ala.)
Riley, John J. (D., S. C.)
Flood, Daniel J. (D., Pa.)
Thomas, Albert (D., Tex.)
Boyle, Charles A. (D., Ill.)

Ford, Gerald R. Jr., (R., Mich.)
Ostertag, Harold C. (R., N. Y.)
Laird, Melvin R. (R., Wisc.)
Lipscomb, Glenard P. (R., Calif.)
New
Weaver, Phil (R., Neb.)
Minshall, William E. (R., Ohio)
Thomson, Keith (R., Wyo.)

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3 February 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing by DCI before Defense Appropriations Subcommittee
of House Appropriations Committee - 2 and 3 February
1959

1. The Director accompanied by Mr. Amory and Mr. Warner appeared before the Mahon Defense Subcommittee of House Appropriations for two days. On February 2 they met at 10:30 and concluded the morning at 12:00. They returned for two hours in the afternoon at 2:00. Subsequently on the 3rd of February the Director met with this group for two hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon. Present from the Subcommittee were: Mahon, Sheppard, Sikes, Norrell, Andrews, Riley, Flood, Boyle, Ford, Ostertag, Laird, Lipscomb, Weaver, Minshall and Taber. Present from the staff were: Sam Crosby, Robert Moyer, Aubrey (Tex) Gunnels, and Kelly Campbell.

2. Mr. Mahon made a brief opening statement commenting that he had received many views from members of Congress and the public generally to the effect that CIA was not doing a good job since we were obviously continually caught by surprise. A transcript was taken and a copy will be retained in the Agency (without the knowledge of the Subcommittee).

3. Mr. Sikes would very much like to receive a briefing to explain the comparison of Russian v. U. S. defense values. This was offered to him by the Director and Mr. Sikes stated he would "like to very much."

4. Mr. Flood asked for information on seizures of arms and caches in Panama and also riots by various groups including students in Panama. Flood also asked for information on Communist penetration in San Paulo, Brazil. The recent statement by Mikoyan on his return to Russia was discussed and 20 copies were made available to the Subcommittee members.

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5. Mr. Ostertag inquired about a recent report that 2400 people had been killed in Russia as the result of some type of nuclear explosion. We promised to supply information.

6. Mr. Laird inquired about recent reports of magnetic devices being found near U. S. shores. We also offered to provide to Mr. Minshall the CIA reports concerning sputniks prior to launching. We also agreed to supply Mr. Sheppard with the numbers of CIA agents who had lost their lives.

7. The Director invited the members of the Subcommittee to come down to the Agency for further briefing on the Agency if they desired. Mr. Lipscomb and Mr. Minshall expressed their desire to do this. The Acting Chairman, Mr. Sheppard, commented on this proposal indicating the Agency should not do this with too many of the Congress.



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JOHN S. WARNER
Legislative Counsel

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6 August 1959 - The stenotypists' tapes on the briefing for 2 and 3 February
1959 were destroyed today and put in burn bag by [redacted]

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